

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring an imaging job in a computer system, the method comprising:
  - sending an imaging job to an imaging device;
  - creating a background process on a computer system for monitoring the status of the imaging job, wherein the computer system includes a despooling subsystem, and wherein the background process is initiated by the despooling subsystem;
  - terminating the background process when the imaging job is completed;
  - obtaining a network address of a computing device;
  - sending a status message to the computing device using the network address; and
  - receiving the status message by the background process, wherein the status message is sent by the imaging device in response to successful completion of the imaging job or an error occurring.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising delaying return to a print spooler until after the imaging job is completed.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising taking control of descheduling and clearing of the imaging job from a print spooler by a print processor.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the imaging device is selected from the group consisting of a printer, a scanner, a fax machine, a copier and a document server.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising using a protocol for communications between the computing device and the imaging device.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising embedding the network address in the imaging job.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising extracting the network address from a connection.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising sending the network address from the computing device to the imaging device.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the status message includes an identifier that enables the computing device to direct the status message to the processing listening for the message, and wherein the identifier is selected from the group consisting of a port, a file, a directory, an FTP address, an SNMP trap and an email address.
10. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising notifying a print processor of the status message after the status message has been received by the background process.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising terminating the background process.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising returning control back to the print spooler and indicating success/failure of the imaging job to the print spooler.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising performing job recovery by the print spooler if the job recovery is necessary.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising returning control back to the print spooler.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising descheduling and clearing of the imaging job by the background process.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the background process runs asynchronously.

17. (Currently Amended) A set of executable instructions on a computer readable medium [[for]], the instructions being executable to:
- send[[ing]] an imaging job to an imaging device;
  - create[[ing]] a background process for monitoring the status of the imaging job, wherein the background process is initiated by a despooling subsystem;
  - terminate the background process when the imaging job is completed;
  - obtain[[ing]] a network address of a computing device;
  - send[[ing]] a status message to the computing device using the network address; and
  - receive[[ing]] the status message by the background process, wherein the status message is sent by the imaging device in response to successful completion of the imaging job or an error occurring.
18. (Currently Amended) The set of executable instructions of claim 17, wherein the instructions are further executable to ~~comprising~~ delay[[ing]] returning to a print spooler until after the imaging job is completed.
19. (Currently Amended) The set of executable instructions of claim 17, wherein the instructions are further executable to ~~comprising~~ take[[ing]] control of descheduling and clearing of the imaging job from a print spooler by a print processor.
20. (Currently Amended) The set of executable instructions of claim 18, wherein the instructions are further executable to ~~comprising~~ notify[[ing]] a print processor of the status message after the status message has been received by the background process.
21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A system for monitoring an imaging job in a computer system, the system comprising:

a computing device;

an imaging device in electronic communication with the computing device;

executable instructions executable on the computing device, wherein the executable instructions are [[for]] executable to:

send[[ing]] an imaging job to an imaging device;

create[[ing]] a background process for monitoring the status of the imaging job, wherein the computer device includes a despooling subsystem, and wherein the

background process is initiated by the despooling subsystem;

terminate the background process when the imaging job is completed;

obtain[[ing]] a network address of a computing device;

send[[ing]] a status message to the computing device using the network address;

and

receive[[ing]] the status message by the background process, wherein the status message is sent by the imaging device in response to successful completion of the imaging job or an error occurring.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, further comprising delaying return to a print spooler until after the imaging job is completed.

24. (Original) The system of claim 22, further comprising taking control of descheduling and clearing of the imaging job from a print spooler by a print processor.

25. (Original) The system of claim 22, further comprising notifying a print processor of the status message after the status message has been received by the background process.